

## CHAMPIONS IN DEBATE

## SION IN THE HOUSE.

TRADE-A SPIRITED LASHING OF BREK-  
INRIDGE BY AN OLD KENTUCKIAN.  
[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]  
WASHINGTON, May 19.—The last day of the  
tariff debate drew an immense crowd of people  
to the Capitol. Before 9 o'clock visitors began  
to pour into the galleries, and two hours later not  
an inch of standing-room was unoccupied, while

The corridors were packed with people, who vainly sought admission. Among the thousands thus excluded were the families of members of the House, who were subsequently admitted to the floor by unanimous consent asked by S. S. Cox. The anxiety to hear the speeches of Mr. Reed, the Republican leader, and Speaker Carlisle, who had consented to throw himself into the breach and attempt to stem the tide of Republican arguments, which bade fair to overwhelm the Free Trade

The champions of the day were on hand early. Mr. Reed was to deliver the first "set speech" of his Congressional life, and he seemed to realize the novelty of his situation. Some of his friends felt more nervous than he did, for knowing his strength in clear, logical statement and condensed argument they thought he might disappoint them in the elaboration of his views. They were happily disappointed later in the day. Speaker Car-

anxious lest should disappoint the expectations of his friends and dash the last hopes of the Free Traders. He had not appeared on the floor to speak for nearly two years, and though he had been many days in the preparation of his speech, he seemed to feel misgivings as to the probable result.

Before the real debate began, the vast audience enjoyed a performance which was well received by all. His speech yesterday Breckinridge, of Kentucky, declared that that "brave and true man," Morrison, had been defeated by corrupt means used by the agents of protected industries.

MR. BAKER USES SOME HISTORIC PHRASES.

Now Morrison's successor is the venerable and quaint but fiery John Baker, a Kentuckian, who was born near the home of Henry Clay, in the district now represented by Breckinridge. He was on the ground early this morning with blood in his

I here, prepared to resign the charge against himself and his constituents. He is a man of old-fashioned views, and of a stern and striking appearance as he stood, erect as a grenadier, facing the Democratic side and glaring at the uneasy Kentuckian on the opposite side of the Chamber.

The Democrats were all in a great hurry, and the man spoke with deliberate utterance and tremendous emphasis to repel what he denounced as "the outrageous attack" upon his honor and the honor of his district. In part he said:

I hurl back the words and denounce the imputation as grossly untrue. I hurl them back into the face and teeth of the gentleman from Kentucky with direct and unmitigated defiance. To use an expressive and historic expression, no man from the South can come here and crack his black snake whip over my head and say that I am a slave. I am a free man, playing upon his own person. If it be a distinction to be a Kentuckian, I, too, am one. I was born within the shadow of Ashland, where lived the great Henry Clay, who represented that district in this House. His seat, alas, is worse than vacant now. He was a man of might, his words uttered here still live. He was a man of honor, and he would have scorned to bow without leave or reward. It only for my lady's bowers.

This extract gives one a fair idea of Mr. Baker's quality, and he did not proceed far before the Republicans were again in the ascendant.

MORRISON'S CHAMPION MISSES THE MARK.

When Baker sat down, Breckinridge arose to reply. Mills was not on hand to object, but many Republicans and some Democrats cried for the regular order. Reed, who was entitled to the floor, yielded it upon Baker's request. Perhaps the

himself, and he got rattled enough. At any rate he did so. His speech was apologetic, not to say humble, but he essayed to support his charge by causing to be read two letters written by John Jarrett during the campaign to a workman in Kentucky. The first letter, which was in fact, contained a word or a suggestion that any improper means were to be used to compass Morrison's defeat. In fact they showed that the workmen depended wholly upon legitimate effort and were not to be swayed by the promises of money or any expenses of the speakers among the miners and artisans. The reading of the letters brought round after round of applause from the Republicans, who felt that Breckinridge had fashioned an entirely new campaign document for the use of the coming convention. The second letter, to the apologetic Breckinridge was that the Kentucky mountain had labored and "brought forth a most ridiculous

he also has been made ridiculous by his volun-  
teer champion and eulogist.

▲ **MASTERFUL SPEECH BY CONGRESSMAN REED.**  
Mr. Reed spoke for about two hours and from  
first to last held the close attention of the House  
and the immense audience which filled every place  
from which he could be seen or heard. Every  
seat on the floor was occupied and the Democrats  
seemed as eager as the Republicans to hear what  
the speaker had to say. "It was a great speech,"  
was the universal verdict. It was a marvel  
of logical and powerful statement. So able  
a discussion of the principles upon which  
the protective system is based, has heretofore been

in either branch of Congress. His statement of the policy and aims of the free traders was so clear and so fair that none of them could call it unfair, although they winced under his keen sarcasm.

Mr. Reed did not stop to discuss the details of the bill, and only once to expose the absurdity of Mills, but the speech, while scholarly and dignified in tone, was replete with apposite illustrations which elicited repeated and hearty applause on the floor and in the galleries. Mr. Reed's powers of wit and sarcasm were never exhibited to greater advantage, and even Car-

edly devoted to laughter, little as they relished the keen thrusts dealt by the Republican leader. Thus, when he applied the old fable of the contented dog with "the shoulder of succulent mutton in his mouth, which he dropped when he came into the stream, and discovered "the markets of the world and dove for them," scores of Democrats joined in the shout of laughter, and some of them with difficulty restrained themselves from joining in the thunders of applause which fairly shook the building. Mills was not among them. (For Mr. Reed's speech see ninth page.)

When Mr. Carlisle rose to speak the Democrats, as in duty bound, applauded him with great vigor, and with the applause was mingled a low yell, such as veterans of the war never will forget. When the noise had subsided Mr. Carlisle began a speech which occupied an hour and a half in the delivery. He traversed much of the ground over which he travelled five years ago. Comparing his speech of to-day with the one which he delivered on that occasion, the former lacked force, which probably was due to the temporary impairment of physical vigor. He took more advanced ground than ever before.

and his speech will give encouragement and aid to the friends of the trade union cause. He said that he would not attempt to reply to the arguments of Mr. Reed. He did try to reply to parts of Major McKinley's arguments, but was not able to do so. He said that he was frequently applauded by members of his own party. On the whole, the speech, although an able one, probably the ablest on that side in the debate, was not distinguished by any brilliant remarks from the Speaker to overturn the arguments against the bill and throw its opponents into confusion. So far as the debate has been productive of results, victory certainly rests with the Republicans.

Mr. Carlisle began by saying that all taxation was an evil and we should endeavor to make life as free as possible, with the lowest tax that would